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6 May 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Contacts Office Re Stasys RASTIKIS

1. On 28 April 1955 [] and the undersigned met with [] of the Contacts Office to discuss the status of subject's case. We were particularly concerned with the matter of subject's complaints mentioned in his letters to [] and [] to the effect that he is without a job and the Contact people in Los Angeles have not been assisting him in this respect.

2. In discussing this matter with [] the following facts have been established:

a. [] first met subject in January 1954. He was introduced to him by [] (Cover Division). It was planned at that time that subject would be terminated and resettled as soon as possible. On 9 February 1954 [] met subject together with [] and after that meeting [] met subject several times by himself.

b. In the course of these meetings it developed that subject would like to stay in Washington until he received his citizenship papers and be resettled after that in Los Angeles, California. [] agreed with this arrangement and helped subject to obtain his citizenship papers in July 1954. With a view to resettling in California, subject was sent by the Contact Division for a preliminary trip to Los Angeles some time in October 1954. Subject spent a few days there and was interviewed by a local employment agency. Subject then returned to Washington and started to make arrangements for departure to Los Angeles for permanent residence. He left Washington together with his wife on 6 October 1954.

c. [] asserted that at no time did he promise subject to pay a salary until he found a permanent position. To the knowledge of [] also made it clear that subject's salary would be terminated as of 1 October 1954. He, [] had only emphasized that subject would receive assistance from a representative of the Contacts Division in Los Angeles in helping him find a suitable position. Prior to subject's departure, he signed a Quit Claim statement, and [] made it a point to explain to subject the contents of the documents that he signed and to assure himself that subject fully understood.

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d. Upon arrival of subject in California, a representative of the Contacts Division paid subject's baggage fee in the amount of \$61.80 and asked subject whether he needed any other help. Subject stated that he had friends who would help him to find an apartment in Los Angeles; subject was reluctant to ask the Contacts Division field representative for any assistance in finding a position.

f. According to [] [] their representative in Los Angeles explained to subject several times that in case he needed help in finding a job or otherwise, he should contact the representative's office. However, subject failed to do so, and therefore the field representative assumed that subject either found a position himself or was engaged in writing his memoirs, and therefore, had decided not to look for one.

g. In view of the above, [] [] stated that it seems to him that subject is not fair in stating that no help was forthcoming. It was subject's fault for not approaching the field representative of Contacts Division.

3. In clarifying the situation further, it appeared that in the instructions which [] [] sent to the field representative concerning subject contained a passage to the effect that in case subject does not find a position after the expiration of his contract, "some means of subsidization will be arranged to support him and his wife." The undersigned indicated to [] [] that this passage could have been interpreted by the field representative in such a way whereby in his conversations with subject, he gave the latter the impression that certain salary payments would be forthcoming in case he does not find a job. The undersigned therefore suggested to Mr. Musulin that he inform the field representative again that no commitments were made to subject with regard to a salary payment and that the passage in the letter of instructions referred only to emergency subsidization in case subject is sick or unable to meet some financial obligations.

4. After discussing this matter at length, it was agreed that [] [] will write a detailed dispatch to the representative of the Contacts Division in Los Angeles explaining to the latter the misunderstandings which took place. The representative should be requested to continue contact with subject to explain to subject that he will be helped in finding a position in accordance with his capabilities, but that he will not be paid any salaries while he is out of a job. The undersigned also promised to transmit to the Contacts Division a copy of the letters which subject wrote to [] [] However, the undersigned requested that subject should not be made knowledgeable of the fact that his letters were read by other persons than the addressees.

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5. On 5 May 1955 the undersigned met with [] and gave him the copies of the letters together with a memorandum in which the request in the above paragraph to contact subject was outlined. [] showed the undersigned a copy of a dispatch which he sent out to the field. This dispatch embodied all the points of discussion outlined in the previous paragraphs. It seems that the matter is now fairly in hand, and subject apparently will have no cause for complaints in the future.

[]
Chief, Lithuanian Desk
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